

IDW

58

COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



FLYNN • ROTH LISBERGER • HERMS

SEGA®



STORY
IAN FLYNN

ART
THOMAS ROTH LISBERGER

COLORS
MATT HERMS

LETTERS
SHAWN LEE

EDITORS
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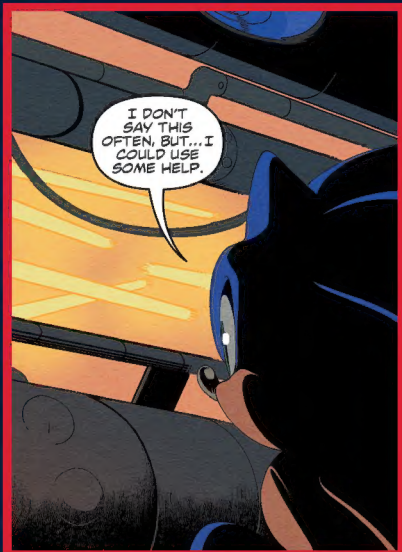
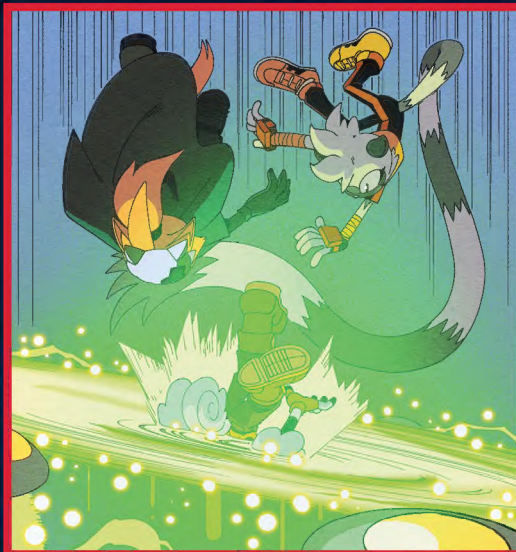
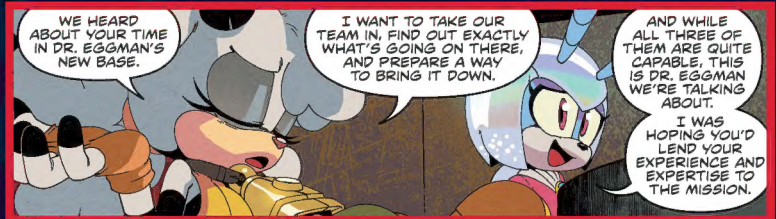
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Ted Adams and Robbie Robbins, IDW Founders

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STORY SO FAR





SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

The Blue Blur.
Fastest thing alive.



TANGLE THE LEMUR

Excitable Hero.
Diamond Cutter.



WHISPER THE WOLF

Silent Sniper.
Diamond Cutter.



LANOLIN THE SHEEP

Woolen Warrior.
Diamond Cutter.



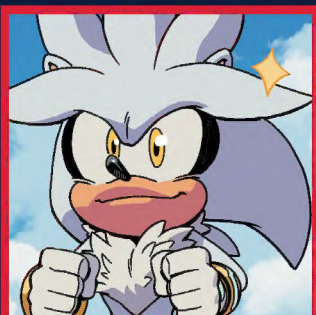
AMY ROSE

Hammer-Swinging Heroine.
Restoration ally.



MILES "TAILS" PROWER

Tech-Savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.



SILVER THE HEDGEHOG

Young Psychic Hero.
Friend from the future.



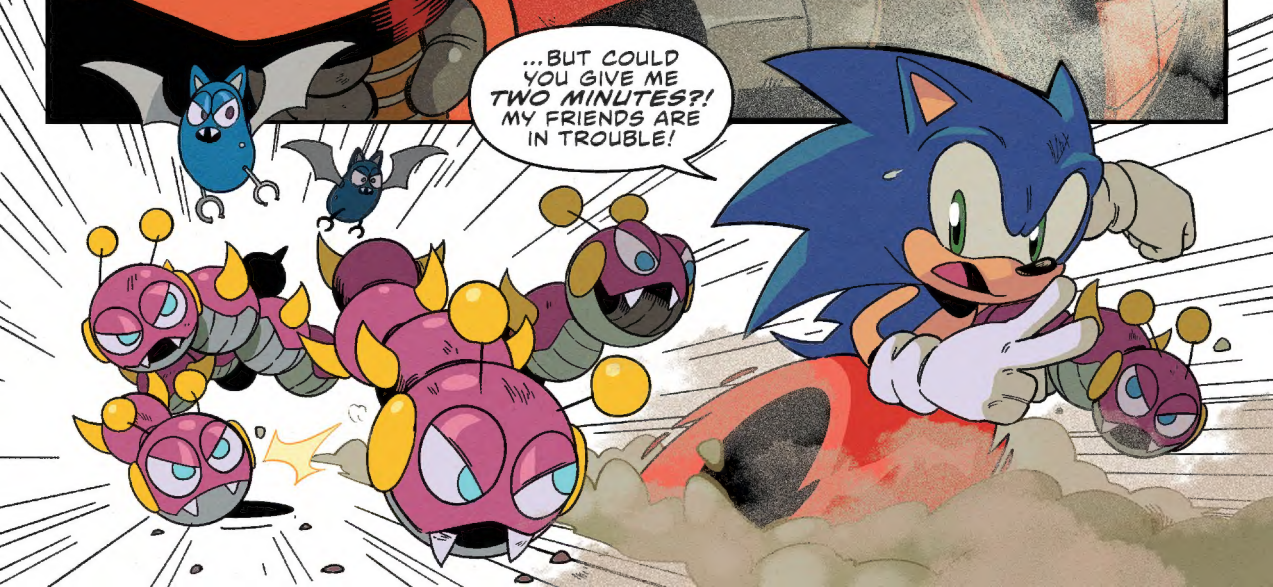
BLAZE THE CAT

Fire-Powered Princess.
Friend from another dimension.

EGGPERIAL CITY.



...BUT COULD
YOU GIVE ME
TWO MINUTES?!
MY FRIENDS ARE
IN TROUBLE!





OH,
HEY, GUYS.
COME HERE
OFTEN?

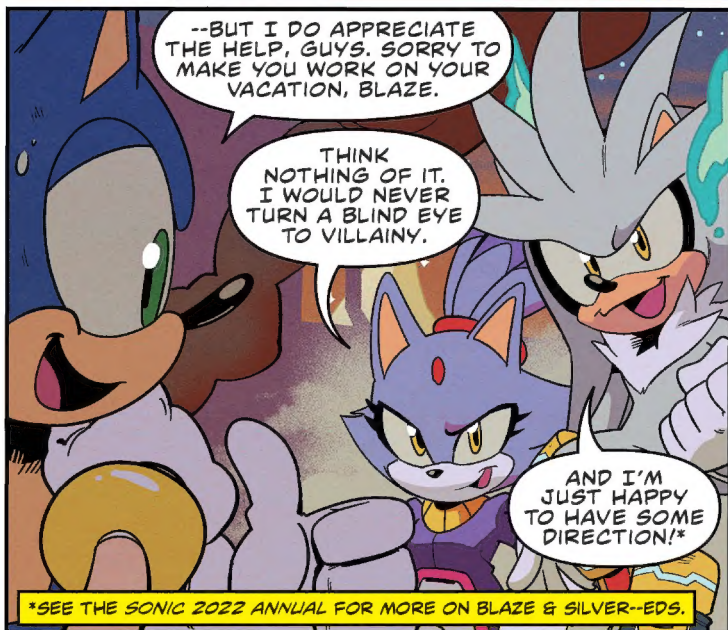


JEWEL
TOLD US YOU
CALLED FOR
BACKUP.*

ARE YOU
HURT?

NAH! I'M
FILLINE--

*LAST ISSUE--EDS.



--BUT I DO APPRECIATE
THE HELP, GUYS. SORRY TO
MAKE YOU WORK ON YOUR
VACATION, BLAZE.

THINK
NOTHING OF IT.
I WOULD NEVER
TURN A BLIND EYE
TO VILLAINY.

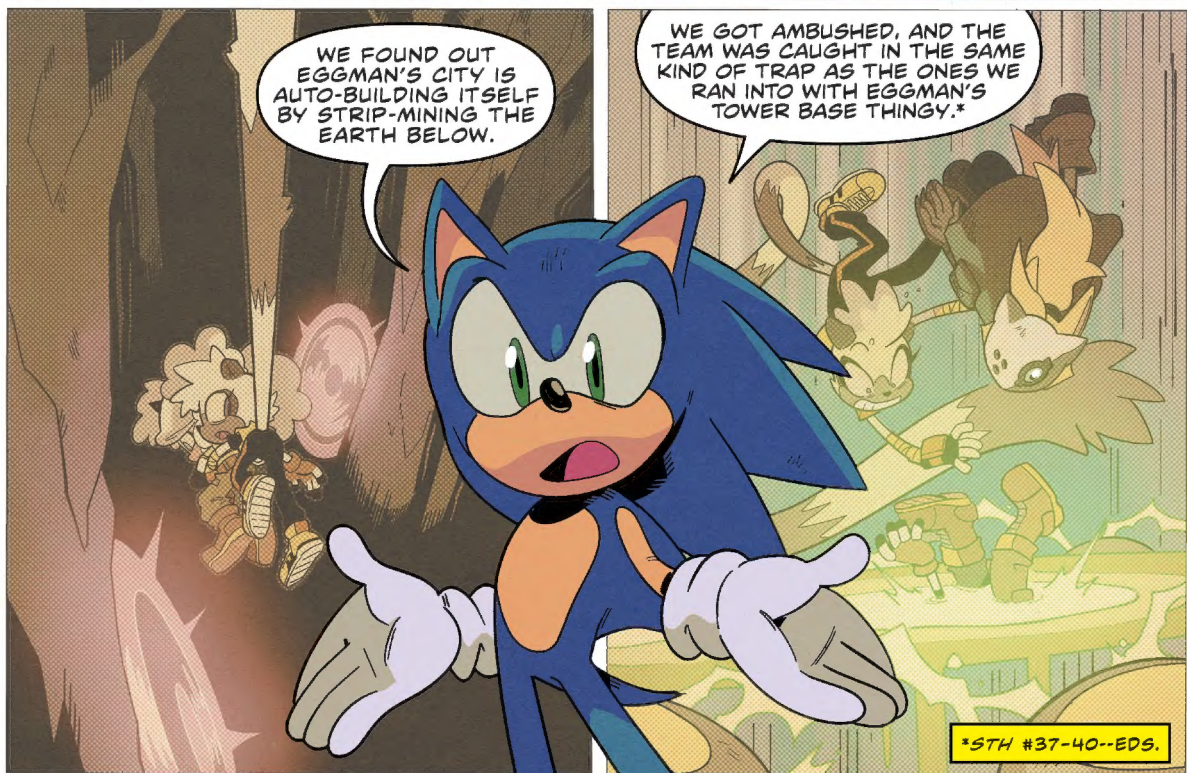
AND I'M
JUST HAPPY
TO HAVE SOME
DIRECTION!*

*SEE THE SONIC 2022 ANNUAL FOR MORE ON BLAZE & SILVER--EDS.



THIS IS THE SORT OF THING
LANOLIN ORGANIZED THE DIAMOND
CUTTERS TO HANDLE. I THOUGHT
THEY WERE WITH YOU?

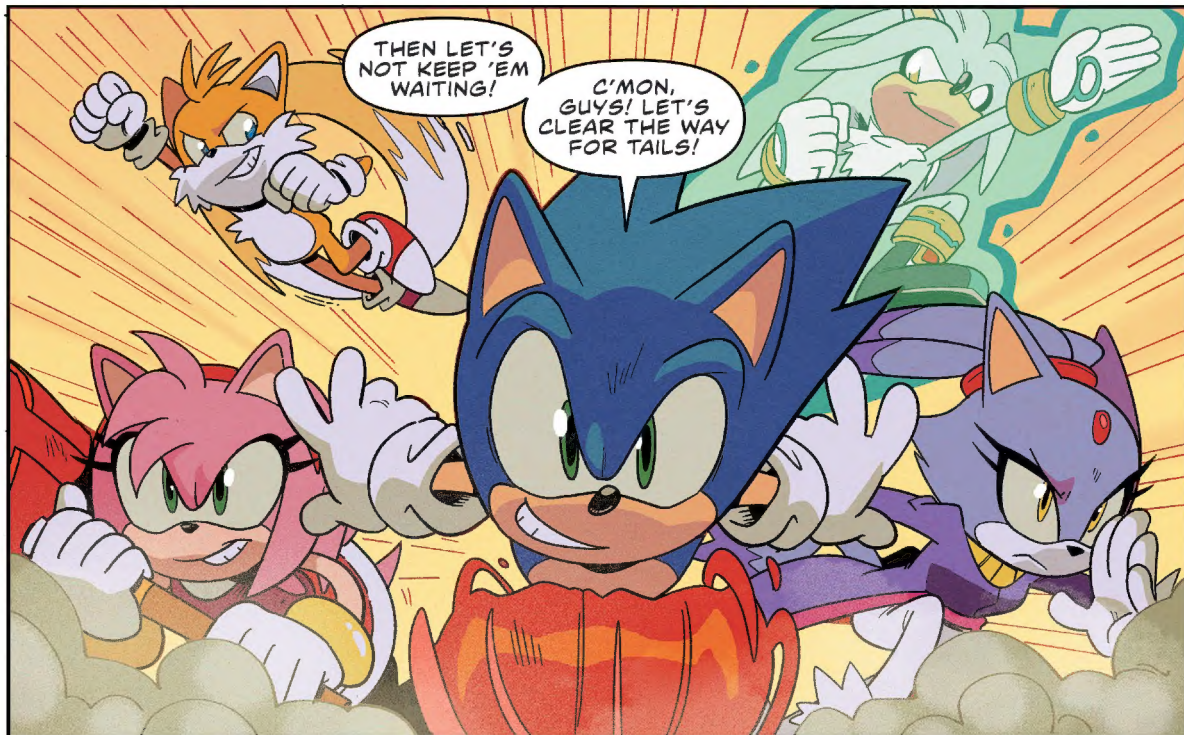
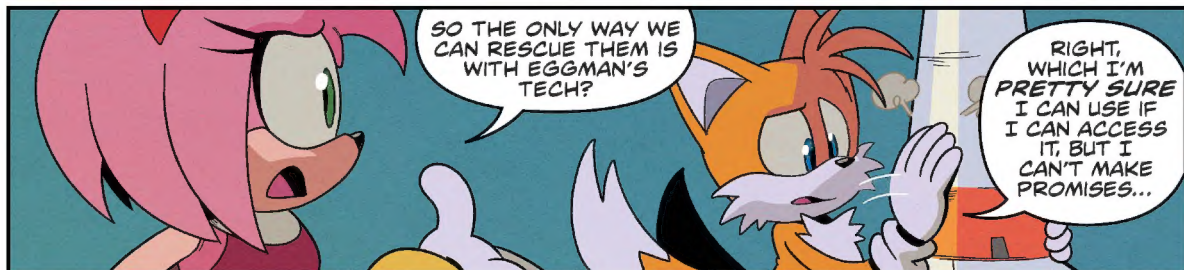
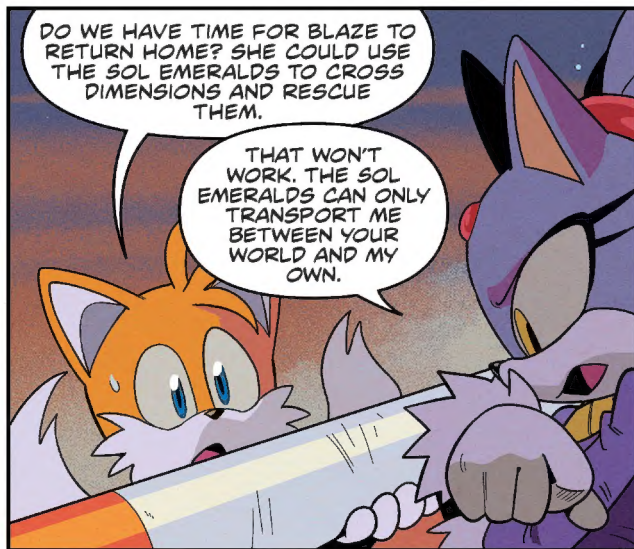
THEY
WERE. LEMME
GET YOU UP
TO SPEED.



WE FOUND OUT
EGGMAN'S CITY IS
AUTO-BUILDING ITSELF
BY STRIP-MINING THE
EARTH BELOW.

WE GOT AMBUSHED, AND THE
TEAM WAS CAUGHT IN THE SAME
KIND OF TRAP AS THE ONES WE
RAN INTO WITH EGGMAN'S
TOWER BASE THINGY.*

*STH #37-40--EDS.





"WHEN THE
BADNIKS
ATTACKED MY
HOMETOWN, I
WAS TERRIFIED."

"I NEVER
WANTED TO FEEL
SO HELPLESS
OR UNPREPARED
AGAIN."

"I DIDN'T WANT
ANYONE TO HAVE
TO FEEL THAT WAY."

*STH #2--EDS.

BUT NOW HERE WE ARE.
I'M NOT PREPARED TO
DEAL WITH THIS.

THIS
MISSION IS AN
UTTER FAILURE,
AND IT'S ALL
MY FAULT.

FIRST OFF, WE
FAILED TOGETHER!
IT WAS A TEAM
EFFORT!

STRANGELY,
THAT DOESN'T
MAKE ME FEEL
ANY BETTER.

SECONDLY, TAKE IT FROM SOMEONE
WHO'S SLING-SHOT HERSELF OFF A
CLIFF ONCE OR THRICE: IT'S OKAY
TO MAKE MISTAKES.

JEWEL'S CARRIED ME
OUT OF SOME BAD
SITUATIONS IN THE PAST.
AND YOU'VE GOT A TEAM
THAT CAN HELP YOU
OUT OF THIS ONE.

WE'LL WALK AWAY
FROM THIS A LITTLE
SMARTER, A LITTLE MORE
EXPERIENCED, AND WITH A
GREAT STORY TO SHARE
BACK AT RESTORATION HQ!

HOW CAN
YOU BE SO
SURE?

BECAUSE
WE'RE THE
**DIAMOND
CLITTERS!** WE
ARE AWESOME!
AND WE NEVER
GIVE UP!

RIGHT,
WHISPER?

WHY?



WHY WHAT?

WHY "DIAMOND CUTTERS." MY TEAM. MY FRIENDS. WHAT I LOST.



WAIT, "LOST"? WHEN TANGLE SAID "FORMER TEAM," I THOUGHT YOU MEANT THEY DISBANDED AFTER THE WAR.



NO. WE WERE BETRAYED. DESTROYED.*



I THOUGHT... I DIDN'T... I WANTED...

JUST SAY IT.



I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T THINK OF IT LIKE THAT!

YOUR OLD TEAMMATES WERE SUCH CLOSE FRIENDS! THEY WERE SO COOL AND COMPETENT!

I WANTED THAT FOR US! SO WE WOULDN'T DRIFT APART AGAIN!



BUT YOU
JUST GOT
HERE...

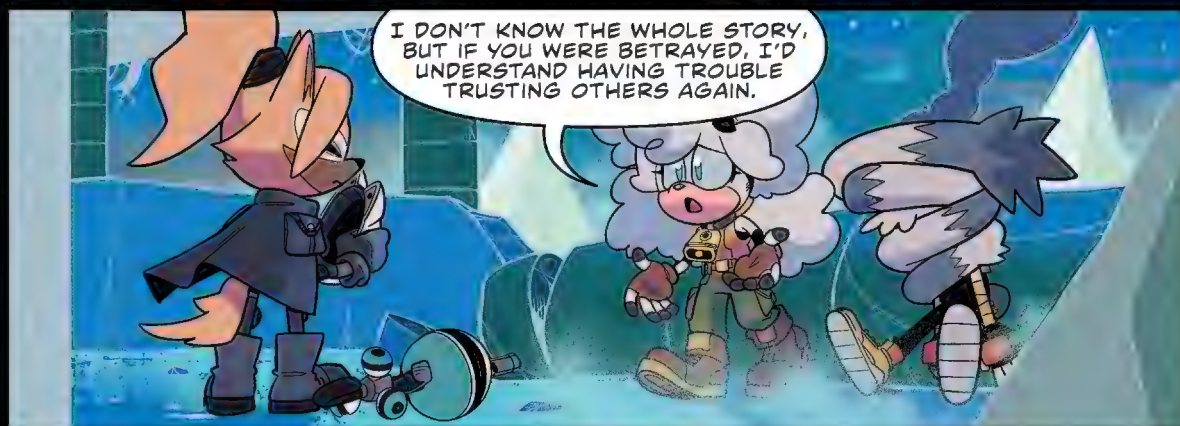
YOUR PLACE
IS WITH THE
RESTORATION.
MINE ISN'T.

I NEED
THEM
BACK.

THANK
YOU.

GET
Well
SOON!







WE CAN
REMAIN THE
"DIAMOND
CUTTERS."

THEY WOULD
BE HONORED TO
HAVE INSPIRED US
TO CONTINUE
THEIR CAUSE.

THE
HONOR IS
ALL OURS.
THANK YOU.



YEAH! THE COOL FRIENDS
DOING WHAT'S RIGHT,
NO MATTER WHAT!



OKAY, BUT THERE'S GOING TO BE
A HARD LIMIT ON THE NUMBER
OF GROUP HUGS.

AGREED.



FINE.
THEN I'M
MAKING
THIS ONE
COUNT!

HOW WOULD
YOUR OLD
TEAM HANDLE
SOMETHING LIKE
THIS? WAS THERE
A CHAIN OF
COMMAND,
OR...

NO CHAIN.
WE RELIED ON
ONE ANOTHER'S
EXPERTISE. IN
THIS CASE...

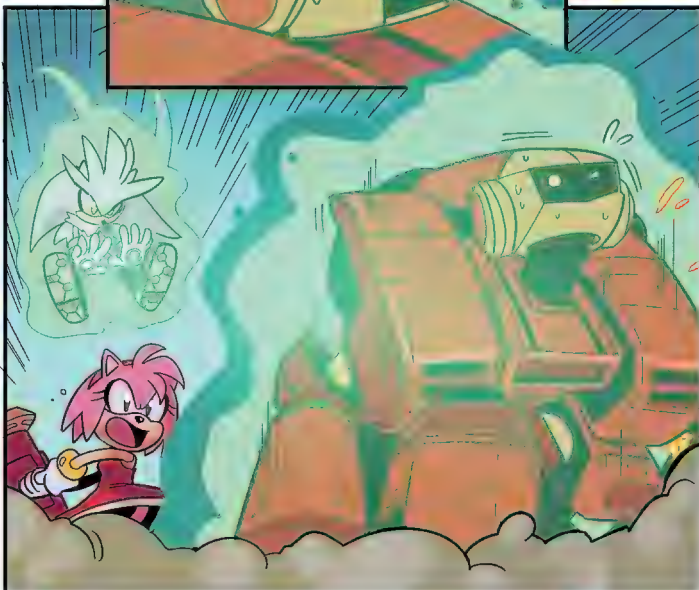
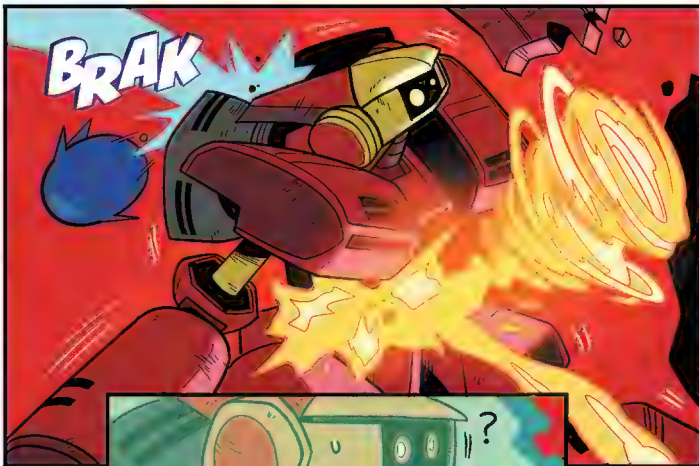
...WE'D ASK CLAIRE
FOR INSIGHT. IF SHE
SAW NOTHING, I'D BE
ASKED TO SCOUT
THE AREA.

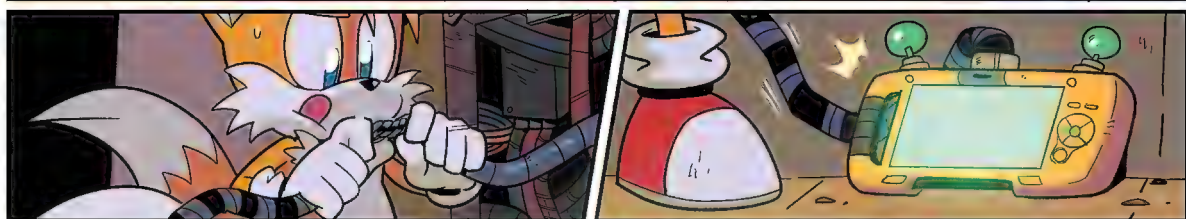
WELL, NONE
OF US ARE
PSYCHIC SO I
GUESS YOU'RE
SCOUTING
FOR US?

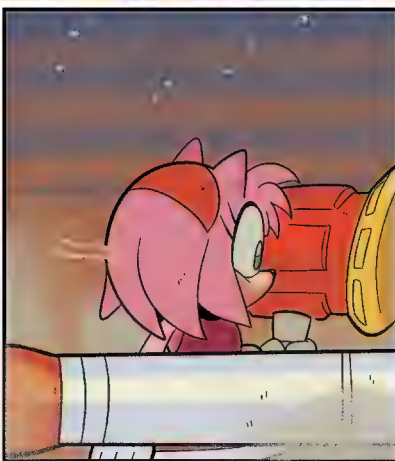
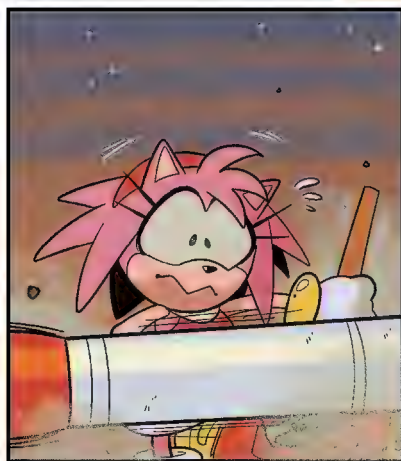
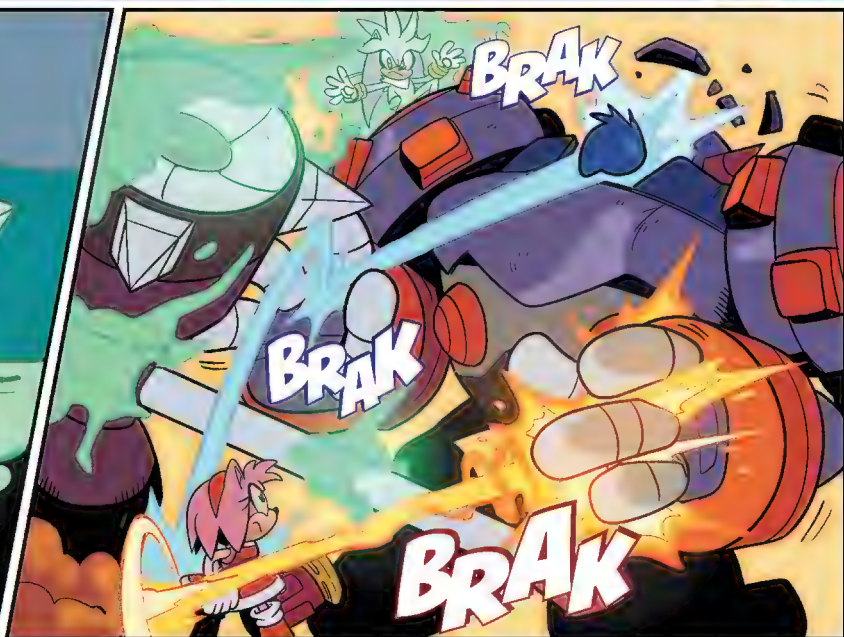
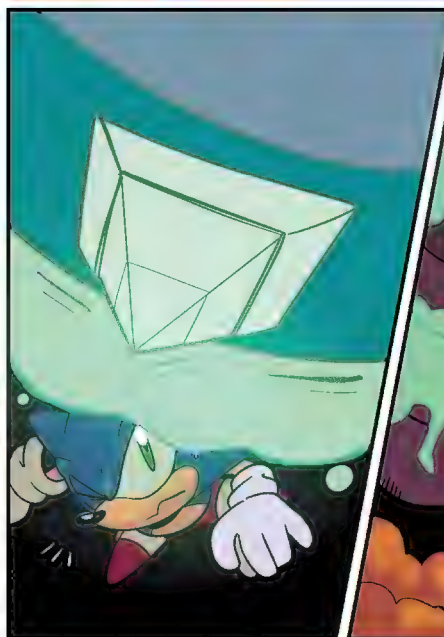
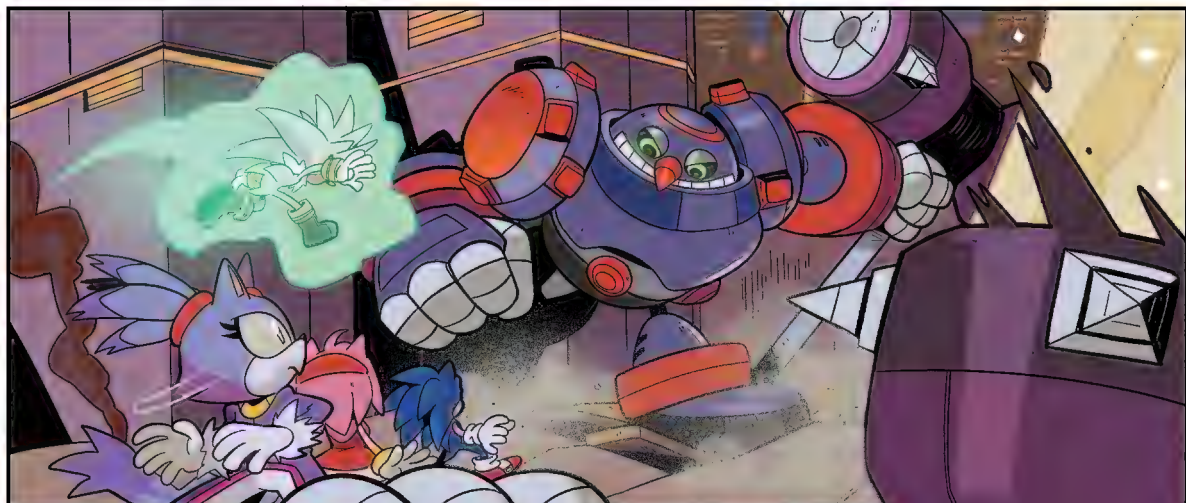
NO...
NOT JUST
WHISPER...

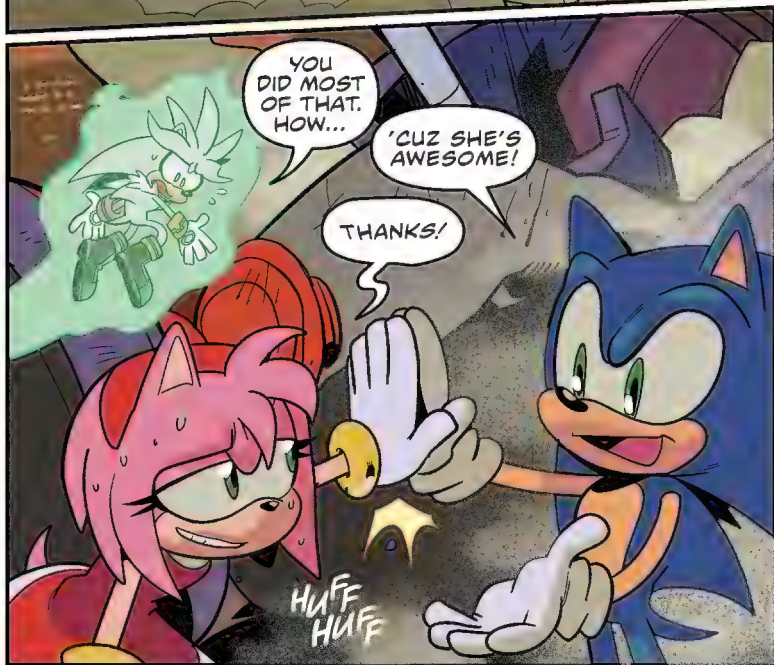
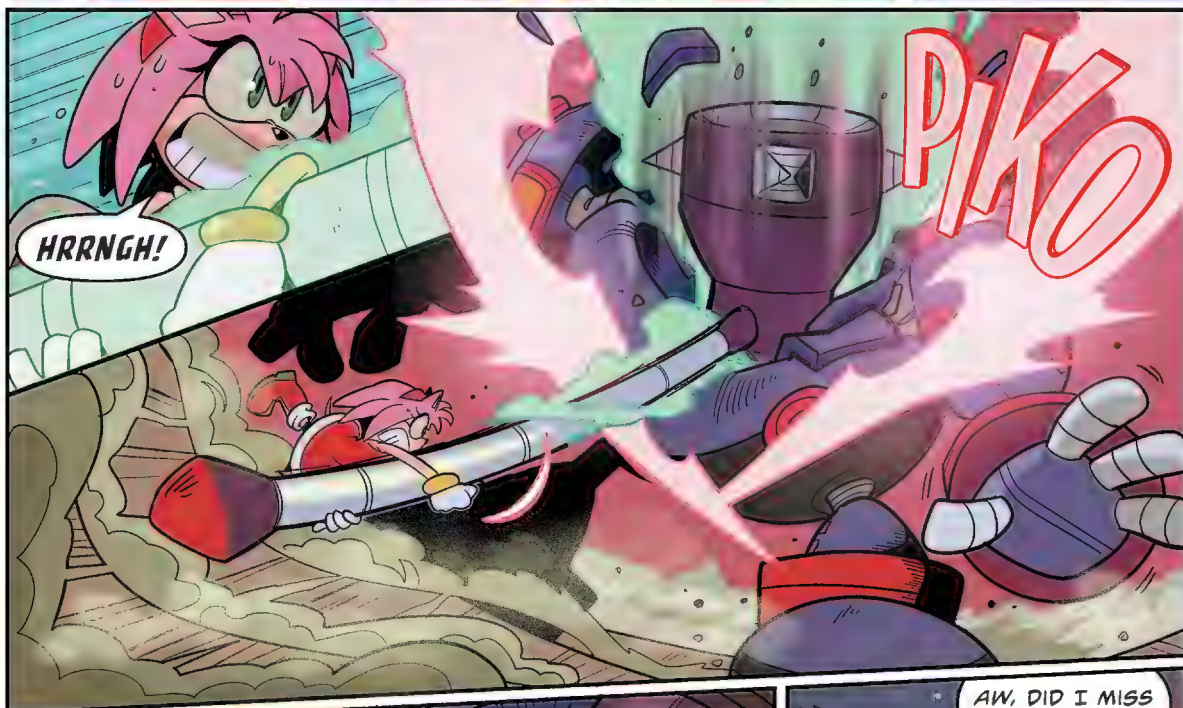
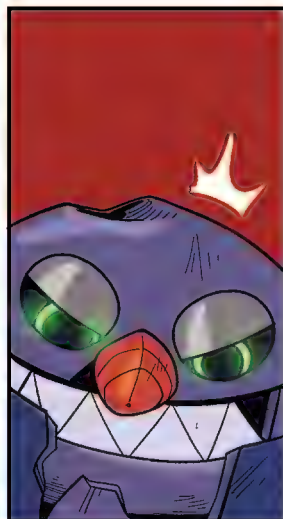
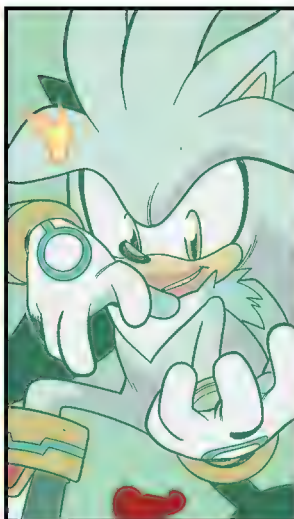
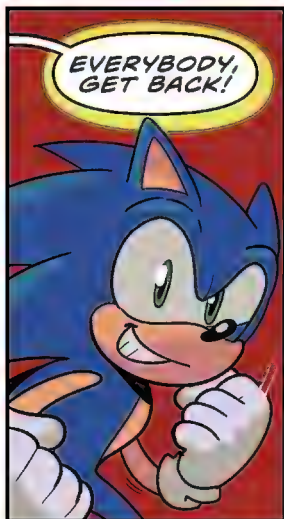


ELSEWHERE.











YES! THE GIANT CRYSTALS STICKING OUT ALL OVER THE CITY? THEY'RE ACTUALLY GIANT FAKE CHAOS EMERALDS!

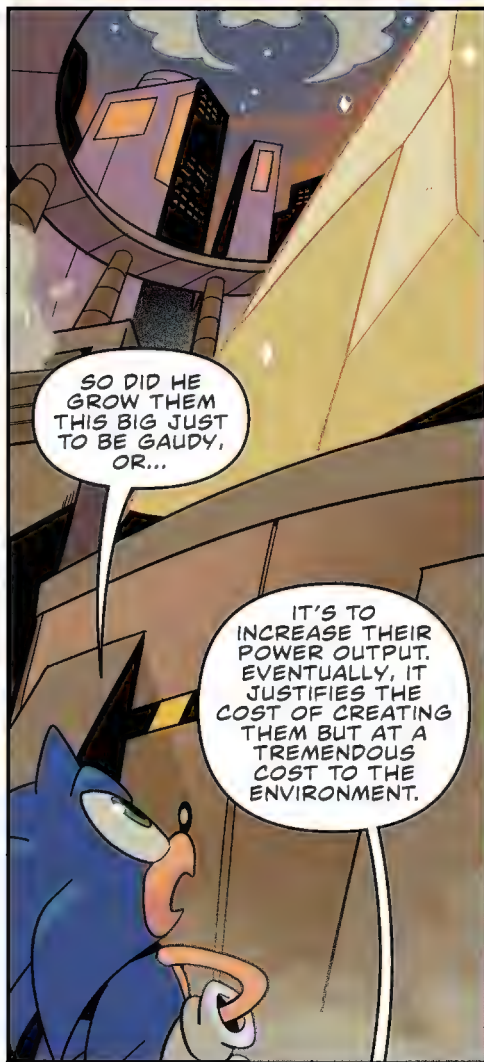
THE DOCTOR CAN REPLICATE THEM THAT EASILY?



YES, BUT THEY'RE **CHEAP** REPLICAS.

THEY HAVE THE SAME WAVELENGTH AND PROPERTIES, BUT THEY'RE **WOEFULLY** UNDERPOWERED IN COMPARISON.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY'RE STILL MORE POTENT THAN THE CHAOS DRIVES AND POWER CORES HE'S USED IN HIS MACHINES IN THE PAST.



SO DID HE GROW THEM THIS BIG JUST TO BE GAUDY, OR...

IT'S TO INCREASE THEIR POWER OUTPUT. EVENTUALLY, IT JUSTIFIES THE COST OF CREATING THEM BUT AT A TREMENDOUS COST TO THE ENVIRONMENT.



GOT IT. BUST THE CRYSTALS, BUST THE CITY. LET'S GO GET THAT HAMMER AGAIN.

OOH! CAN I DO IT MYSELF THIS TIME?

SURE. I'M STILL CATCHING MY BREATH.



NO, NO, NO! THAT'S A BAD IDEA!

HONESTLY... SHATTERING SOMETHING AS POWERFUL AS AN EMERALD? WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

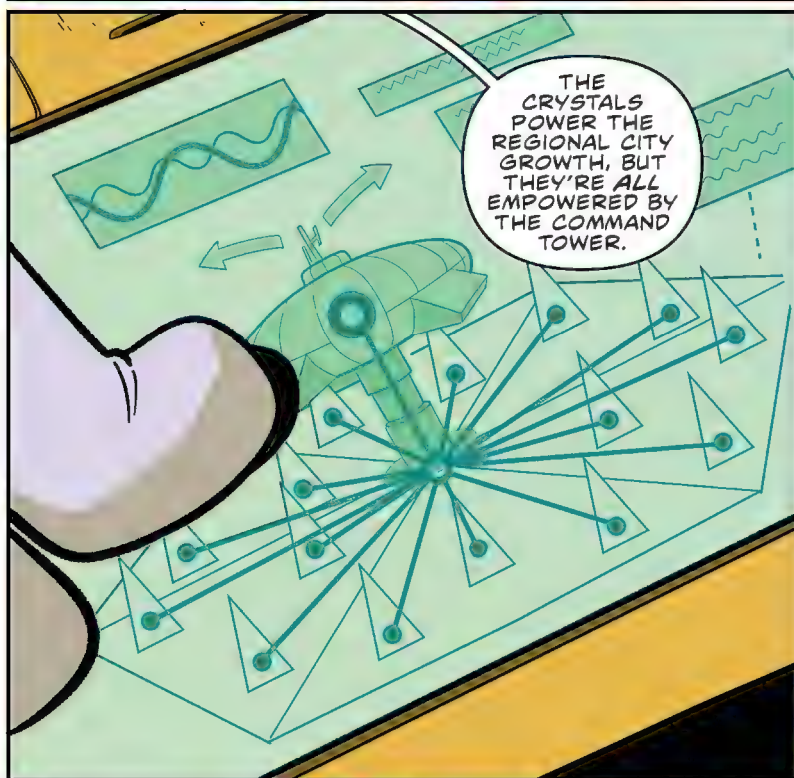


THAT WOULD BLOW UP THE CITY BLOCK ALONG WITH US! AND THEN THE CITY WOULD DEVOUR EVEN MORE LAND TO REBUILD ITSELF!

SO... WHAT? WE TRASH THE ENTIRE CITY BY OURSELVES?

YOU CAN'T THINK THAT'S REMOTELY POSSIBLE.

I'M JUST TOSSEING IDEAS OUT THERE...



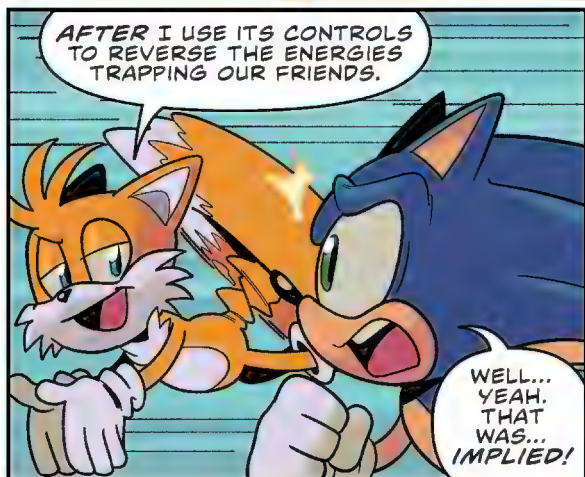
THE CRYSTALS POWER THE REGIONAL CITY GROWTH, BUT THEY'RE ALL EMPOWERED BY THE COMMAND TOWER.



THAT SEEMED LIKE WHERE EGGMAN WAS CALLING THE SHOTS FROM THE LAST TIME WE WERE HERE.*

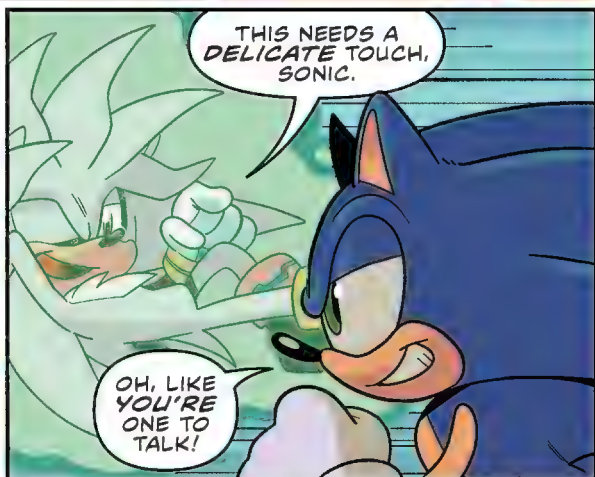
SO LET'S GO KNOCK IT DOWN AND UNPLUG THIS WHOLE MESS!

*STH #50-52--EDS.



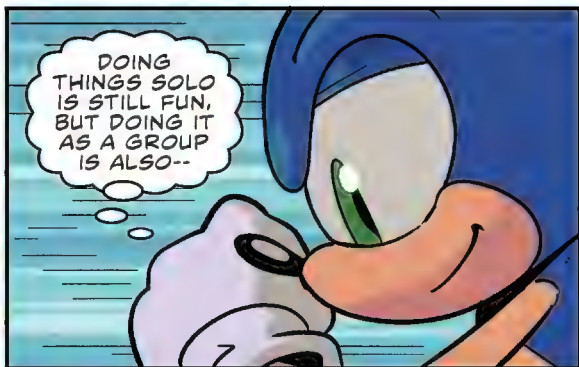
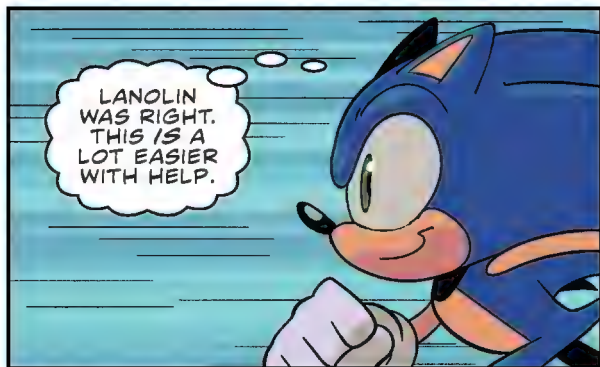
AFTER I USE ITS CONTROLS TO REVERSE THE ENERGIES TRAPPING OUR FRIENDS.

WELL... YEAH. THAT WAS... IMPLIED!



THIS NEEDS A DELICATE TOUCH, SONIC.

OH, LIKE YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!





NEXT TIME:
TEAM DARK JOINS
THE FRAY!



NEXT MONTH



THP 121

DEE
GEE
MIN

SONIC

LETTERS SQUAD



**Waves* Hello, Sonic Squad! More help is on the way! We're running out of room in our roll call... Thank you for joining Ian Flynn, Thomas Rothlisberger, Matt Herms, and Shawn Lee for issue #58! Now, let's take a look at your art and letters!*

Hey! My name is Bradley, and right now I'm 17, studying art and design at college. I've been a fan of *Sonic* for as long as I can remember, and Yuji Uekawa's awesome art is probably what got me into drawing! I've attached a drawing that I'm super proud of. I'm sure the shonen influence won't be lost! These IDW comics are absolutely amazing, telling new stories with new characters whilst referencing and calling back to the games is always super fun. I absolutely love

Tangle, too. She's in my top three for sure! Major thanks to the artists over there at IDW for bringing these characters to life better than ever and inspiring me even more so to do the same! It would be pretty rad if I could be in that same spot sometime in the future.

P.S. My top three are Sonic, Shadow, and Tangle in no specific order, but Metal gets an honorable mention for being a cool, introspective, clanky fella.

Hey, Bradley! It's so awesome that you're pursuing art at school. Your art is stellar. I really love the shonen influence; the Super Sonic kicks butt. Thank you for the kind words about the comic. We love to hear that people are enjoying them. Sonic, Shadow, and Tangle are absolutely some of the best characters, and lucky for you, they're all in the next issue together!





Hey, IDW Sonic Team,

My 8-year-old daughter Lilly is obsessed with Sonic. She especially loves your *Sonic* comics and would love to provide a picture of her artwork for a future issue. Lilly had a Sonic-themed birthday and has drawn several of her own Sonic comics. She also went as Amy Rose for Halloween. Thanks again. Below is a message from Lilly:

My favorite characters from *Sonic the Hedgehog* are Sonic, Knuckles, Surge, Tails, Shadow, Silver, Metal Sonic, Tangle, and Whisper. So long, Sonic Squad. And a happy new year.

Thanks,
Hunter and Lilly

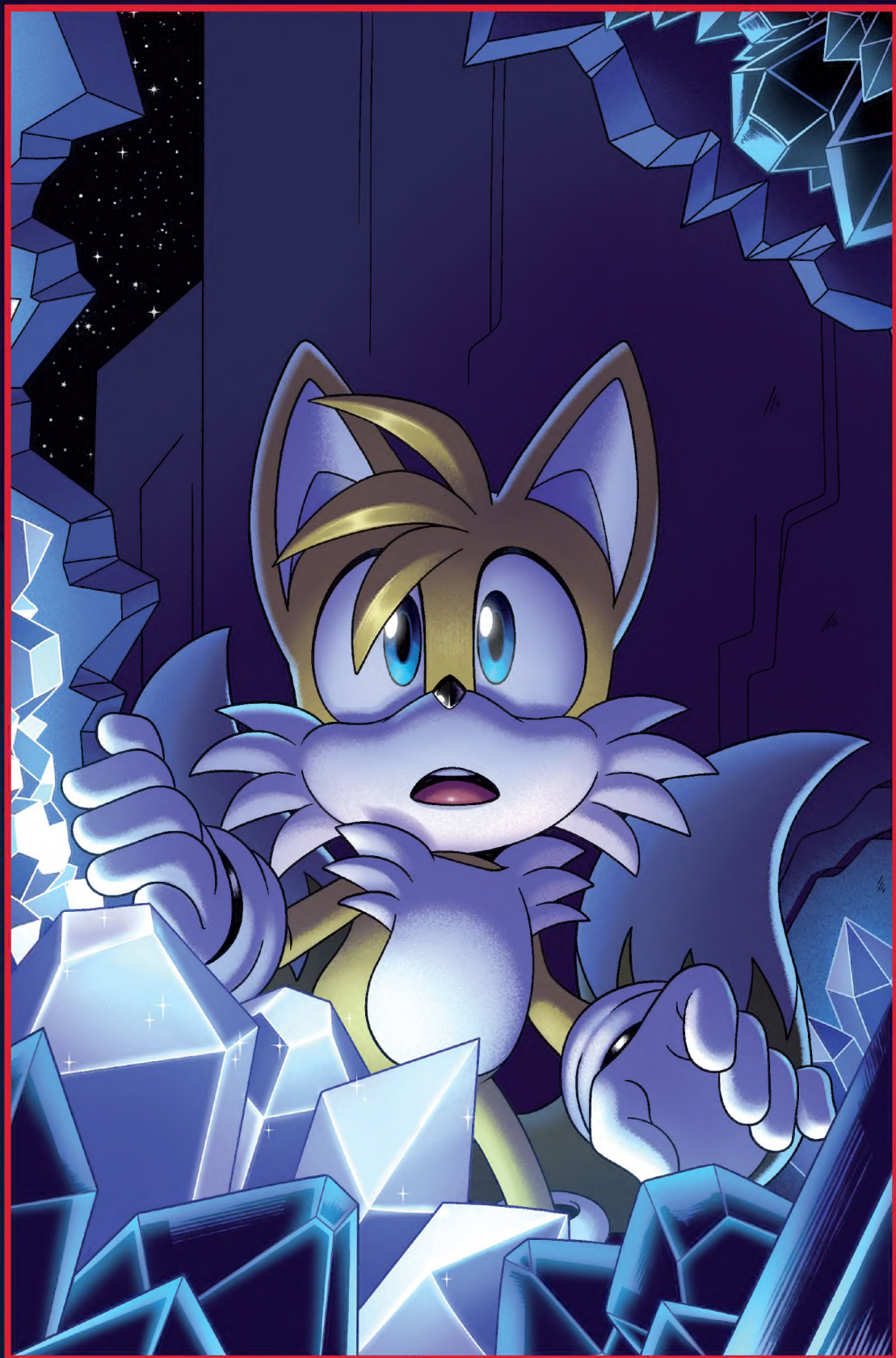
Hey, Hunter and Lilly! Thank you so much for the letter, art, and picture. Your costume is so, so cute! I bet everyone at school loved it! Also, wow your list of favorite characters is long! I'm impressed with your dedication. I think your next comic should be a crossover of all your favorite characters. Can you imagine Tangle bugging Shadow? It would be so funny. Keep being way past awesome!

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT"! And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, another new team joins the fight!





ART TRACY YARDLEY **COLORS** MIN HO KIM



ART ABIGAIL OZ



ART NATHALIE FOURDRAINE